

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 13286 251913Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 SAB-01

IO-10 AID-05 /086 W

----- 016842

R 251300Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6829

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

RUQMRAXAMEMBASSY JIDDA 8206

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

DIA WASHDC

CIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BEIRUT 13286

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (OMISSION PARA ONE)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, LE

SUBJECT: VIEWS OF JUMBLATT DEPUTY ASSAD KHALAF ON LEBANESE
SITUATION

1. AT TIME OF APPROACH MADE BY ECON COUNSELOR AND POLIT-
ICAL OFFICER HOWELL TO JUMBLATT'S DEPUTY, ASSAD KHALAF,
ON KIDNAPPING OF GALLAGHER AND DYKES, OPPORTUNITY WAS
TAKEN TO QUESTION KHALAF ON LOCAL LEBANESE SITUATION.

2. KHALAF SAID HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM MEETINGS OF
DIALOGUE SUBCOMMITTEES AND WAS ENCOURAGED BY FACT THAT
SOMEPROGRESS SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN MADE. IN SPITE OF VERY
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 13286 251913Z

PRECARIOUS SECURITY SITUATION, THEREFORE, HE STILL RE-

MAINED HOPEFUL WITH RESPECT TO AN EVENTUAL POLITICAL SETTLEMENT.

3. SPECIFICALLY KHALAF WAS IMPRESSED BY COMMENTS MADE BY FORMER EDUCATION MINISTER EDMOND RIZK, WHO ATTENDED INSTEAD OF GEMAYEL AS PHAALANGE REPRESENTATIVE. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT EXPANDED CABINET HAD TO BE FORMED AND, IN CONTRAST WITH FORMER JUMBLATT ATTITUDE AIMED AT ISOLATING GEMAYEL, NOTED THAT NEW CABINET SHOULD INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES BOTH OF JUMBLATT'S AND GEMAYEL'S PARTIES.

4. KHALAF WAS QUESTIONED ABOUT REPORT INDICATING THAT JUMBLATT STRONGLY OPPOSED ANY RESIGNATION OF KARAME AND HAD URGED KARAME TO REMAIN IN OFFICE. KHALAF CONFIRMED THAT THIS REPORT WAS TRUE. DESPITE DIFFERENCES EXISTING BETWEEN KARAME AND JUMBLATT, JUMBLATT BELIEVED IT WAS ESSENTIAL THAT KARAME REMAIN IN OFFICE. HE ADDED THAT THESE SENTIMENTS WERE SHARED BY SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASSAD.

5. KHALAF COMPLAINED BITTERLY ABOUT ROLE PRESENTLY PLAYED BY PRESIDENT FRANGIE AIMED AT SABOTAGING KARAME'S EFFORTS. IT WAS MOST REGRETTABLE THAT FRANGIE ALLOWED TRADITIONAL VILLAGE RIVALRIES (TRIPOLI-ZAGHORTA) TO BRING LEBANON TO THE BRINK OF RUIN. IN KHALAF'S VIEW, 65PCT OF THE LEBANESE CIRSES COULD BE SETTLED WITH THE ORDERLY RESIGNATION OF FRANGIE.

6. ON THE PRESENT SECURITY SITUATION, KHALAF WAS CRITICAL OF CHAMOUN'S PRESENT POSTURE. AS MINISTER OF INTERIOR, CHAMOUN WAS IN CHARGE OF PREVENTING KIDNAPPINGS. YET THE NUMBER OF KIDNAPPINGS BY CHAMOUN'S MILITIA WAS ON THE INCREASE. CHAMOUN WAS ALLEGEDLY BUILDING BRIDGES WITH THE PALESTINIANS. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE WAS EVIDENCE THAT HE WAS IN LEAGUE WITH FRANGIE. KHALAF WENT ON TO MAINTAIN THAT IT WAS KARAME'S OPINION (WHICH HE SUPPORTED) THAT EFFICACY OF SECURITY FORCES DEPENDED ON LEADERSHIP OF THESE FORCES, RATHER THAN QUALITY AND/OR NUMBER OF ACTUAL UNITS. HAD OF SECURITY FORCES, HISHAM SHA'QR, A MUSLIM, WAS WEAK AND TOOK ORDERS FROM RIGHTIST-ORIENTED MILITARY DEPUTIES (BARAKAT AND SAADE). IDEAL SITUATION WOULD BE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BEIRUT 13286 251913Z

REPLACE CHAMOUN AS INTERIOR MINISTER BY RAYMOND EDDE AND TO REPLACE SHA'AR BY MOHAMMED HAFEZ. (HAFEZ IS PRESENTLY LEBANESE AMBASSADOR TO INDIA, BUT WAS FORMERLY IN CHARGE OF SECURITY UNTIL A RUN-IN WITH SAEB SALAM.)
GODLEY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, COMBAT OPERATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BEIRUT13286
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750372-0666
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751018/aaaaapxi.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <09 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIEWS OF JUMBLATT DEPUTY ASSAD KHALAF ON LEBANESE SITUATION
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, LE, (GALLAGHER, CHARLES D), (DYKES, WILLIAM R), (KHALAF, ASSAD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006